

ALEX DECOTEAU IS AGAIN WINNER OF CALGARY HERALD'S CHRISTMAS DAY ROAD RACE LEADING BIG FIELD

The Edmonton Runner Did Not Have to Extend Himself to Win the Great Race

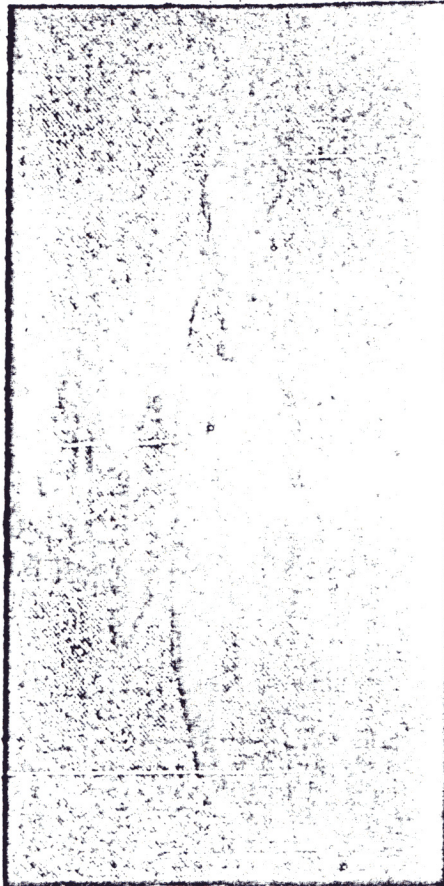
Two Representatives of 66th Battalion, Edmonton, Made a Great Bid For Second Place

Three of the ten shields which are placed upon the base of The Herald Christmas Day Road Race Cup have engraved upon them the name of Alex. Decoteau, of the Edmonton Police Athletic association, for on Saturday (Christmas day) the stalwart runner from the north again romped home to victory in front of the biggest field that has ever started during the ten-year existence of this Derby of distance running of western Canada. Decoteau finished 150 yards ahead of the next man, also an Edmontonian; Jack Hall, of the 66th battalion. William E. Miller, also representing the 66th, finished third, being beaten out by second place when within ten yards of the finishing tape by his friend and fellow soldier Hall. Eight yards behind Miller came J. W. Warburton, of the 56th battalion, Calgary, the first Calgary man to finish, while A. Mitchell, travelling under the colors of the Hillhurst Football club, finished fifth.

Decoteau Was Never Pressed

Decoteau's time for the race was 37 minutes 25 1-5 seconds, somewhat slower than the time that he made last year. If Decoteau had been pressed he might easily have clipped a full minute off the time that he made, but after taking the lead at Royal avenue, two miles from the start, he was never headed. Every step that he took added inches to his lead. Finally, when at the Ramsay school, he turned to look for the first time during the race and seeing his closest opponent almost two hundred yards away, he eased up. When he was passing the city hall he lifted his long woolen toque from over his mouth and sprinted alone to the finishing tape, amidst the cheers of the thousands of spectators who lined both sides of the avenue to witness the finish.

PROTECTED AGAINST
THE COLD WIND



ALEX DECOTEAU

Winner of the tenth Annual Road Race, setting the pace over the C.N.R. bridge. The picture shows how the Edmonton runner protected himself against the cold wind, the cap pulled down over his face acted as a respirator. He also protected his legs with stockings and his hands with gloves.

finish, the latter prize being donated by Charles Suttle, of Calgary, a veteran distance running enthusiast, who had intended starting in the race, but who caught cold while training and being unable to appear at the tape.

Seventeen Men Started and of These Fourteen Went Entire Distance of Six Miles

Snow Made Footing Slow and Record Time Was Impossible Under the Circumstances

from every vantage point along the route was the largest that has ever assembled during the ten years that the race has been won. For blocks east and west of The Herald building on Seventh avenue, both sides of the road were crowded with thousands to watch the start and finish, while at every turn hundreds of others gathered. The weather was ideal for the spectators, practically all of whom had with them clippings from The Herald, which gave the numbers of the competitors, which served to identify them as they passed.

All along the route, Chief Cuddy had officers stationed, who did their best to keep road cleared of spectators and automobiles; but who at times found the task too difficult.

Decoteau Conserved His Strength

Decoteau conserved his strength. He first went into the lead on Eighth street west, at the subway, being followed by Jack Hall, who finished second, who was followed by Warburton, of the 56th. At the top of the subway hill Hall took the lead with Decoteau second. Passing Twelfth avenue, at Eighth street west, Decoteau and Hall were running neck and neck and this team race continued for five or six blocks. At the turn into Royal avenue Decoteau stepped a few paces into the lead and from then to the finish was never headed. He put on a little extra speed at the Mission bridge, which he continued until the foot of Mission Hill was reached. Hall picked up a few yards on the hill and when the turn into the Macleod trail was reached Decoteau had only fifty yards advantage. But he added inches to his lead with every step until he reached the Ramsay school, when he turned to see where the second man was running, and took it easy all the rest of the way home.